

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 12
Columbia River Compact
September 27, 2005

<i>Fisheries Under Consideration:</i>	Non-Indian mainstem commercial Non-Indian mainstem recreational
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management guidelines, allocations, and run size forecasts for the 2005 fall season were presented in the 2005 Fall Fact Sheets #1 and #10.

STOCK STATUS

Steelhead and Fall Chinook

- The TAC updated Group A and Group B steelhead run sizes to 277,800 combined (Bonneville Dam). Group A index includes 232,500 steelhead (54,500 wild) and Group B index includes 45,300 steelhead(8,900 wild).
- The TAC updated the river mouth run size to 572,000 adults, including 392,600 (69%) brights and 179,400 (31%) tules. The Upriver Bright forecast increased slightly to 283,200 adults to the Columbia River mouth.

<i>Fall Chinook Adult Returns to the Columbia River Mouth</i>					
Stock	2004 Return	2005 Preseason Forecast	2005 TAC Update		
			15-Sep	20-Sep	26-Sep
LRH	108,900	78,400	78,400	78,400	78,400
LRW	22,300	21,400	21,400	21,400	21,400
BPH	175,300	115,800	95,000	104,400	101,000
URB	363,500	354,600	280,000	280,000	283,200
MCB	121,900	89,700	76,700	78,700	76,500
SAB	7,100	11,500	11,500	11,500	11,500
Total	799,000	671,400	563,000	574,400	572,000

- Chinook returns to lower Columbia hatcheries vary, but appear to be on track overall. Some hatcheries have already achieved broodstock goals, several are on track to meet goals, and others remain considerably short of goals

Early Stock Coho

- Bonneville Dam counts through September 26 total 61,200 adult coho. The Bonneville Dam escapement
- Commercial landings have been greater than expected and hatchery returns are varied but appear to be on track.
- Sandy River wild coho passage over Marmot Dam typically peaks in October. Only 7 adults have passed Marmot Dam through September 19.

- Through September 21 a total of 335 adult early stock coho have passed Faraday Dam on the Clackamas River.

<i>Early Stock Coho Returns</i>					
	Escapement				
	Returns	As of:	Proj. Total	Goal	Comments
Grays H.	0	27-Sep	925	1,300	Too early, need rain
Elochoman H.	132	21-Sep	752	800	Too early, need rain
Kalama H.	60	22-Sep	1800	500	Too early, need rain
Toutle H.	1,600	27-Sep	6,942	800	meeting expectation
Lewis H.	4,500	27-Sep	5,062	1,600	meeting expectation
<i>Total Washington</i>	<i>6,232</i>		<i>8,539</i>		
Big Creek H.	1,600	26-Sep	NA	700	No coho held yet; fish in system
Eagle Creek NFH	0	22-Sep	NA	3,300	Fish in Clackamas
Sandy H.	0	22-Sep	NA	1,200	Need rain; fish in system
Bonneville H.	15,900	26-Sep	NA	5,100	Goal achieved
<i>Total Oregon</i>	<i>16,600</i>		<i>NA</i>	<i>10,300</i>	
Bonneville Dam	60,667	25-Sep	70,000	--	
Willamette Falls	398	22-Sep	NA	--	

FISHERY UPDATES

Recreational Fisheries

- The Buoy 10 fishery (Columbia mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened Aug 1 for Chinook and hatchery coho. Estimates through September 25 include 54,000 anglers, 9,200 Chinook and 6,900 coho.
- The mainstem Columbia River (from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Bonneville Dam opened for chinook and coho on August 1. Retention of Chinook was prohibited effective September 18, but the fishery remains open for hatchery coho and hatchery steelhead. An estimated 17,500 Chinook were landed from 74,000 angler trips in the Tongue Point-Bonneville area. Coho harvest to date includes 420 coho kept.
- The Zone 6 sport fishery also opened August 1 from Bonneville Dam to Hwy. 395 near Pasco, Washington. Most fishing activity is near the tributary mouths. The Zone 6 sport fishery is typically 50% complete by September 23. A season total of 1,300 chinook are expected to be landed.

Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fisheries

- The early fall season consisted of eight fishing periods occurring during August 4-26 resulting in landings of 11,430 Chinook (3,924 URBs), 87 coho and 2,094 sturgeon.

- The late fall season is still under way, with six fishing periods occurring the first week of the fishery (September 19-25) and 4 fishing periods in place for the second week (September 26-Oct 2).
- Chinook landings to date were similar to expectations while coho landings were above expectations:

<i>September Non-Indian Commercial Fishery Landings</i>						
Dates		Deliveries	Chinook	Coho	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon
Sept 19-20	(Z 1-3)	146 ave.	3,747	13,426	89	2
Sept 19-21	(Z 3-5)	42 ave.	3,697	737	253	0
Sept 22	(Z 1-3)	153	1,938	5,727	269	7
Sept 22-23	(Z 3-5)	27	873	274	81	0
Total			10,255	20,164	692	9

- Projected landings for September 26-27 include 1,100 Chinook and 900 coho and 800 sturgeon. Projected landings for September 28-29 are expected to be similar.

Select Area Commercial Fisheries

- The Youngs Bay Select Area fishery is currently open seven days per week through the end of October and four nights per week in the other Select Areas.
- Landings to date are ahead of preseason expectations in Youngs Bay and Tongue Point, on track for Blind Slough, and behind for Deep River, with total Select Area landings consisting of 8,500 Chinook, 57,100 coho and 50 sturgeon.

Sturgeon Harvest

- During the first week of the late fall season, 681 white sturgeon were landed leaving 3,171 (includes 183 from 2003-04) available for harvest during the remainder of 2005.

Treaty Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery

- Five weekly fishing periods were adopted in all of Zone 6 during August 22 through September 23.
- Projected treaty-Indian harvest rates to URB Chinook total 19.5%, or 85% of the Treaty Indian allocation.
- Projected treaty-Indian harvest rates to wild Group B steelhead total 11%, or 73% of the Treaty allocation.

<i>2005 Treaty-Indian Landings</i>					
Dates	Chinook	URB	Steelhead	Wild B	Coho
August Platform	520	492	3,399	198	0
Commercial					
Aug 22-26	3,859	362	1,218	74	11
Aug 31-Sep 3	10,035	6,253	930	65	72
Sep 7-10	36,628	23,156	1,507	91	883
Sep 13-17	37,996	16,775	2,776	291	1,350
Sep 19-23	16,927	8,192	2,333	291	1,514
Commercial Total	105,445	54,738	8,764	812	3,830
Total	105,965	55,230	12,163	1,010	3,830

Impacts Summary

<i>Summary of Fishery Impacts During Fall of 2005</i>				
Fishery	Pre-Season	Chinook	URB Impacts	
	Chinook	Catch	No.	%
Treaty Indian Fisheries				
August C&S		520	492	0.17%
Commercial through Sep 23		105,445	54,738	19.33%
Treaty Indian Total		105,965	55,230	19.50%
Non-Indian Fisheries				
Buoy 10 Sport (Proj Total)	12,400	9,300	2,250	0.79%
LCR Sport through Sep 17	16,600	17,465	10,241	3.62%
Zone 6 Sport (Proj. Total)	1,700	1,330	1,130	0.40%
Sport Total	30,700	28,095	13,621	4.81%
Early August Commercial	5,800	4,707	90	0.03%
Mid-Late August Commercial	7,300	6,723	3,830	1.35%
Select Area Commercial (Proj. Total)	11,000	10,670	500	0.18%
September 19-23	10,155	10,255	3,016	1.06%
September 26-30 (projected)	10,155	2500	1125	0.40%
October Commercial Fisheries (Proj. Total)	700	600	160	0.06%
Commercial Total	45,110	35,455	8721	3.08%
Non-Indian Total	75,810	66,050	23,367	7.89%
Remaining URB impacts				0.36%
URB run Size (80% of preseason)			283,200	8.25%

- Recently updated CWT data indicates a higher proportion of URBs in the mainstem sport fishery and a lower proportion of URBs in the commercial fishery (to date) than previously estimated.

FISHERY PROPOSALS

<i>Treaty -Indian Commercial Fishery Recommendation</i>		
Season:	6 AM Wednesday September 28 to 6 PM Friday September 30	(2½ days)
Area:	All of Zone 6.	
Gear:	8" minimum mesh size restriction.	
Sanctuaries:	All standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries will be in effect. There will be a small Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary within a radius of 150 feet of the Spring Creek Hatchery fishway.	
Allowable Sales:	Chinook, sockeye, coho, steelhead, walleye, carp, and shad.	
Miscellaneous Rules:	Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon between four and five feet total length in The Dalles and John Day Pools and between 45"-60" in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence purposes.	
	The Quick Reporting rule will also be in effect for Washington Buyers.	

- Projected landings and impacts will be provided by the Treaty tribes.

Future Compact Hearings

- A Columbia River Compact hearing is recommended for 1:00 PM, Monday October 3, 2005 via teleconference to discuss salmon stock status and consider additional non-Indian commercial fishing periods.